

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 OMB-01 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07

L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02

USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00 H-01 NSC-05 /079 W

-----191716Z 081603 /44

R 181600Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4839

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 6083

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GE, GW, WB

SUBJECT: HONECKER ATTACKS SCHMIDT ON THE QA AND THE WALL

REF: BERLIN 6038

1. SED FIRST SECRETARY CONTINUED HIS UNUSUALLY STRIDENT DEFENSE OF THE WALL (REFTEL) ON MAY 17 IN AN ATTACK ON FRG CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S MAY 15 COMMENTS ON THE QA AND THE WALL. SPEAKING BEFORE ASSEMBLED DELEGATES OF THE 9TH FREE GERMAN LABOR UNION (FDGB) CONGRESS, HONECKER CRITICIZED SCHMIDT'S ASSERTIONS THAT THE QA APPLIED TO ALL OF BERLIN AND THAT THE WALL WAS THE "INHUMAN PROOF OF AN UNSUCCESSFUL POLICY."

2. IN A WARNING TO BONN JUST AS A NEW PHASE OF FRG GDR NEGOTIATIONS IS ABOUT TO BEGIN, HONECKER PREDICTED THAT PEOPLE IN BONN WOULD ONE DAY REALIZE THAT THE FRG MISSES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE GREATEST CHANCE FOR NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH THE GDR AND ITS ALLIES WHEN IT CLINGS TO THE "FICTION" THAT THE QA APPLIES TO ALL OF BERLIN. COMMENTING THAT SCHMIDT'S "COMPULSORY EXERCISES" WERE TO NO AVAIL, HONECKER REMINDED THAT SCHMIDT IN HELSINKI HAD COME OUT IN THE INTEREST OF DETENTE AGAINST TESTING THE QA'S DURABILITY.

3. TURNING TO SCHMIDT'S COMMENTS ON THE WALL, HONECKER CRITICIZED THE CHANCELLOR'S "UNQUALIFIED ATTACKS" AGAINST THE GDR STATE BOUNDARY. HE THEN VOICED SUPPORT FOR THE STATEMENTS OF TWO FDGB DELEGATES AT THE CONGRESS. ACCORDING TO HONECKER, SINCE THE WALL WAS BUILT, BERLIN HAD NO MORE "FOREIGN HANDS" IN ITS POCKETS, AND IMPERIALISM ENDS ONCE AND FOR ALL AT THE WALL; IN ADDITION THE WALL REPRESENTED "SECURITY AND PEACE, THE HIGHEST BLESSING OF HUMANITY."

4. COMMENT: HONECKER HAS BEGUN ENGAGING IN AN UNUSUALLY AGGRESSIVE AND UNABASHED DEFENSE OF THE WALL, SEEMINGLY IN REACTION TO THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS ON THE SUBJECT IN LONDON AND NOW SCHMIDT'S MAY 15 CRITICISM. HIS VEILED WARNING THAT FRG-GDR NORMALIZATION DEPENDS ON FRG ACCEPTANCE THAT THE QA APPLIES ONLY TO WEST BERLIN STRIKES US AS A SOMEWHAT NEW INFORMATION. IN RECENT WARNINGS THAT THE FRG MUST COMPROMISE ON "BASIC QUESTIONS" IF RELATIONS ARE TO NOVE FORWARD, THE GDR HAS USUALLY PLACED GREATER EMPHASIS ON FRG RECOGNITION OF GDR BORDERS AND A SEPARATE GDR CITIZENSHIP. POLANSKY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SOVEREIGNTY, BERLIN WALL, SPEECHES, RESOLUTIONS, BERLIN FOUR POWER OCCUPATION, STATUS OF BERLIN, BERLIN QUADRIpartite MATTERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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